PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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APPLICANT

ALLARD et al.

SERIAL NO

09/446,711

FILED

April 3, 2000

METHOD FOR IMPROVING THE FREEZING TOLERANCE OF

**PLANTS** 

Grp./A.U.

1638

Examiner

Collins, Cynthia E.

Conf. No.

2785

Docket No.

P04334US00

## **AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Madam:

In response to the Office Action dated September 23, 2003, please amend the aboveidentified application as follows:

## **Introductory Comments**

Claims 1-4, 9-14, 16-22, 24, 38 and 39 are currently pending in the present application

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING/TRANSMISSION (37 CFR 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this correspondence is, on the date shown below, being:

MAILING

☐ deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: February 23, 2004

FACSIMILE

Is transmitted by facsimile to the Patent and Trademark Office, Art Unit 1638 at Fax No. (703) 308-4242.

Heidi S. Nebe

PAGE 2/15 \* RCVD AT 2/23/2004 4:18:24 PM [Eastern Standard Time] \* SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-2/0 \* DNIS:7468000 \* CSID:5152881338 \* DURATION (mm-ss):03-56

synergistic effect from the combination of betaines and cold acclimation. It would not be obvious to one skilled in the art that a significant synergistic increase in freezing tolerance would be obtained from the claimed method.

## III. Conclusion

In light of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully assert that claims 1-4, 9-14, 16-22, 24, 38, 39 and 40 are now in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the above rejections. If it is felt that it would aid in prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number indicated to discuss any outstanding issues.

This is a request to extend the period for filing a response in the above-identified application for two months from December 23, 2003 to February 23, 2004. Applicant is a small entity; therefore, please charge Deposit Account number 26-0084 in the amount of \$210.00 for one month to cover the cost of the extension. Any deficiency or overpayment should be charged or credited to Deposit Account 26-0084.

Reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Duws II M

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